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TO: Paramedic Level Ambulance Services
EMS Regional Directors
CMED Centers

FROM: Louise Goyette, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. Goyette", followed by a vertical line.

DATE: September 6, 2005

RE: ALS Staffing for transports of Hurricane Katrina persons from Otis Air National Guard (ANG) Base

Due to the influx of large numbers of survivors from the Gulf Coast to Otis ANG Base, under the authority of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health, certain provisions of the Emergency Medical Services Regulations have been suspended as follows:

Term of the Suspension:

This order shall be effective:

From: Immediately.

To: For a minimum of 30 days and subject to renewal.

Effective section: CMR 170.305: Staffing

Staffing Requirements for the Provision of ALS Service.

Section (C)(2) shall read as follows:

“When a Class I, II, or V ambulance transports a patient receiving emergency care at the Paramedic level of ALS, the ambulance must be staffed with a minimum of two EMTs, one of whom is certified the EMT-Paramedic level.”

Conditions:

The suspension of the ALS staffing requirements will apply to any ambulance service in the Commonwealth actively engaged in the transport of persons who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina from Otis ANG Base to any appropriate destination.

The modification of the ALS staffing requirements is subject to the approval of the ambulance service's affiliate hospital.